# KENTUCKY JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER STATE COUNCIL

Council #1487 in Ashland purchased forty new flags to decorate Calvary Cemetery on holidays such as Memorial Day. The main Cemetery Flag was also replaced, and a new Solar lighting system installed on the flagpole to light the flag at night. Many of Council 1487's brothers turned out to decorate the cemetery this year. Every Veteran's grave was marked with a smaller flag as well.





#### STATE DEPUTY'S MESSAGE

As we enter the final month of the 2022-2023 Fraternal Year, I would like to thank those of you that attended the State Convention last month. We heard a common theme over the weekend; "Recruiting is Evangelizing" and the importance of bringing families back into the Catholic Church. I want to thank you for a great Fraternal Year, and I promise I will pray and work hard to make the 2023-2024 Fraternal Year a success as well.



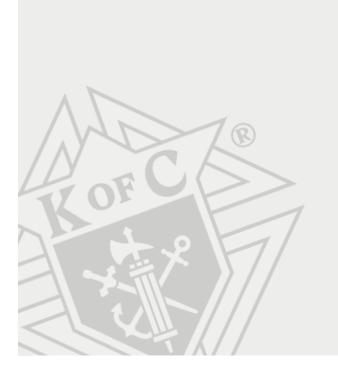
Tom Johnson SD

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#### **KY State Council Newsletter**

#### **Chief Editor**

Cameron Peck PSD, DM

#### Distribution

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#### **Contributions**

Please help contribute to the newsletter each month. Please email a write up and photographs to <a href="mailto:kykofcnewsletter@gmail.com">kykofcnewsletter@gmail.com</a>

## STATE CONVENTION

The Knights of Columbus Kentucky State Convention was held at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Frankfort, Kentucky on May 19-21. This was one of the best attended state conventions in several years. It was a great chance for everyone to get together and celebrate our accomplishments from the past year. State Deputy Tom Johnson with the help of FDD Steve O'Bryan and DD Ed Quinn put on a great convention!

<u>Supreme Director Antonio Pascua</u> Past State Deputy of Nevada, was our Supreme Representative. He and and his wife, Mercedita, were a great addition to our event.







## CONVENTION CONT.





## CONVENTION CONT.





## **MOTHERS DAY**

As part of St. Andrews Church's celebration of Mother's Day weekend, Knights of Columbus Harrodsburg Council #17234 presented flowers at all masses to all mothers in attendance. In addition flowers were also presented by the Knights to "The Willows at Harrodsburg" assisted living facility for the Mothers in residence.



## CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Pictured is Steven Veno Grand Knight, Frankfort Council 1483 presenting Father John Lijana the Knights of Columbus Chaplain of the Year Award for the Lexington Diocese. Father John has always been helpful to the Knights' service and support to the parish and community. He followed an unconventional path to the priesthood. He served in the US Army for three years before earning a bachelor's and masters' degrees working in private industry before entering the seminary at the age of 46. He was previously the paster at Queen of All Saints Church in Beattyville prior to coming to Good Shepherd Church nearly two years ago.

Submitted by: Steven Veno



## FISH FRIES FOR ASAP

On Friday May 26 St Joseph council 12354 in Mt Washington held a Fish fry to raise money for ALC pregnancy resource center. The fish fry made \$800 and the council donated an additional \$700 to bring the total donation to \$1,500. After a previous fundraiser over the winter that made \$500 St Joseph council has raised a total of \$2,000 for ALC and maxed out their ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy) money for the year.

Submitted by: GK Michael Zygmunt







### TOOTSIE ROLLS FOR REATH CENTER

Knights of Columbus Council 12923 Grand Knight-Elect B. J. Brady presents a check from the "Kentucky Association for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities" (KAPID) to "The Reath Center" (Riding Enhanced Around Therapeutic Horses) Director/Instructor Marchetta Garrison. This money was collected by Fr. Patrick Creed Council 12923 – Campbellsville during its annual "Tootsie Roll Drive". The Reath Center was started in 2006 because the nearest therapeutic riding program at the time was 92 miles away. To read more about this story, visit their website. <a href="www.thereathcenter.com">www.thereathcenter.com</a> Also pictured is Sammy Garrison-Operations Manager and Sabrina Garrison-Volunteer Coordinator.



Photo by Luke A. Williams

## **COUNCIL #2761 CHARITY DINNER**

On May 1st the Knights of Columbus Council 2761 hosted the 61st Annual Kentucky Derby Festival Charity Dinner. In the past 61 years the Council has raised and given away untold thousands of dollars to charities in the Louisville area.

The evening was hosted by Chairman Col. John E. Aubrey. Benediction was led by Fr. Hackett. The Derby Queen and court were introduced by Bobbie Aubrey. Following remarks from the head table guest, the 2023 John Asher Derby Ambassador Award was presented to Barbara L. Borden the Chief Steward of KY Racing Commission.

Presentation of cash awards to Charity Honorees was made by Grand Knight Greg Johnson and Faithful Navigator Ed Knabel. The honorees were: The Cedar Lake Foundation, Dreams with Wings, Franciscan Kitchen, Harbor House of Louisville, Knights of Columbus KY Association for



The evening was closed with the singing of MY Old Kentucky Home led by former Miss America Heather French Henry.

Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (KAPID), Little Sisters of the Poor, Pregnancy Resource Center, Schuhmann Social Services Center, Sister Visitor, "Sitio" Clothing Ministry, Southwest Center of Development Disability, St. Mary's Center, Inc., Stewards of Appalachia and Workwell Industries.

## CHARITY DINNER CONT.

The money raised for these charitable donations is through the efforts of Council 2761 membership. The two day road block for the annual Tootsie Roll drive where our bucket brigade members hand out Tootsie Rolls to motorist with the hope they will respond with a generous donation. The Council also collects aluminum cans and scrap metal for recycle. Members also make cash donations to the Charity Fund to supplement the income from our charity drives.

Subitted by: Rick Ratterman FS



Grand Knight Greg Johnson and Faithful Navigator Ed Knabel presenting a Check to Ellen Wichnabb of the Pregnancy Resource Center

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## FIRST COMMUNION

On Sunday May 14, Knights of Columbus Grand Knight Ty Holiday and Deputy Grand Knight Brian V. Blank on behalf of Harrodsburg's Council #17234 presented Rosary's to first communion recipients.





## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

#### **Knights Support the Summer Games in Two Major Ways**

The Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games wrapped up on June 4 and Knights of Columbus from across the state made an impact on the Games in two major ways.

First, Knights set a record and exceeded the goal in the annual Salute to Summer Games fundraising campaign, raising or contributing a whopping \$12,435 (and counting) to help fund the Games. Not only was the total raised a record for the program, but the 41 participating Councils was also a record.

Once the Games were underway, Knights were there to volunteer as they have been for more than 20 years with St. Mark Council #12852 in Richmond leading the way. On Friday, St. Mark Council Knights answered an emergency call for help with the Friday night softball throw competition. They returned to the softball throw on Saturday with more than 35 Knights and family members. In all, Knights performed more than 250 volunteer hours at the Games.



Dozens of Knights mainly from St. Mark Council #12852 once again served as the primary volunteers at the Softball Throw venue.



State Deputy Tom Johnson and Lady Janet Johnson accepted an award on behalf of the Knights for the Salute to Summer Games success.

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONT.

## Knights Contribute more than \$36,000 to Special Olympics in Fraternal Year 2022-23

With the success of the Salute to Summer Games, total Knights of Columbus fundraising for Special Olympics throughout the 2022-23 Fraternal Year exceeded more than \$36,000 for only the second time in history. This includes the Salute, all money donated by Councils to Special Olympics programs and teams in their area or to the Special Olympics state office through activities like Tootsie Roll Drives and all money raised at events like the Plane and Truck Pulls. Thank you all so much for the important work you do on behalf of Special Olympics athletes.

#### **Summer Sports Season Offers Many Volunteer Opportunities**

The Special Olympics Kentucky Summer Sports Season is one of the smallest in terms of number of events, but still offers several volunteer opportunities for Knights across the state. The season consists of golf and softball events. Golf events have roles for scorers and even course officials for Knights familiar with the Rules of Golf.

Softball leagues in Georgetown and Louisville have openings for scorekeepers. Our Regional and State Tournaments have opportunities for scorekeepers, announcers and umpires for any Knights who may be certified umpires. For more information visit <a href="https://www.soky.org/volunteernow">www.soky.org/volunteernow</a>.





## STATE DEPUTY TOM JOHNSON

**Thank You** to all who attended this year's KY Knights of Columbus State Convention. If I recall, there were 85 registered delegates in attendance. That was fantastic! We had a great, relaxed meal at Mi Fiesta on Friday evening, and we were able to support our brother knight who owns the restaurant. Followed by an overflowing of knights and their wives for the Adoration of our Lord Jesus Christ along with the recitation of the Rosary. From there the activities moved to the Hospitality Suites where brother knights & their wives came together to renew friendships, make new ones, and indulge in a wide variety of food and beverages. My thanks to our Hospitality couple Tommy & Megan for a fantastic job and a wonderful weekend.

There were so many attendees at our opening business meeting on Saturday morning that we had to bring chairs into the room. Based on handouts and a rough head count there were over 100 men in attendance. Thank you, Lord, for bringing these men of faith together for this wonderful weekend. I won't try to detail everything that took place that weekend, but needless to say, the spirit was at work and the Lord was truly in our mist. For those of you that were unable to attend, I hope that you make plans to attend not only next year's State Convention but also the upcoming July Organizational meeting as well as the Mid-Year meeting in December. Brothers, we are a Fraternity. We are Brothers in Christ. Let us come together and celebrate our faith and our Lord.

## JOHNSON CONT.

The end of the 2022-2023 Fraternal Year is quickly coming to a close. As I reported at the State Convention, as of May 18th we needed 81 new members to meet our year-end membership goal. As of May 22nd, we need 76 new members. Our Lord God is at work. He's working through you. As our Membership Director Fr Phil noted, "Recruiting and evangelizing are the same thing".

That means 336 Catholic men have joined our ranks this fraternal year. That's the good news...during the reading of the Necrology, PSD Rick Arnold read off the names of 118 brother knights that have died this past fraternal year. Maybe you know one or two of them. Maybe they were a family member. Never forget the watchword of our Order... Tempus Fugit Memento Mori!

#### **Re-Elected State Deputy**

While the State Convention was a success in many ways, I want to personally thank the delegates that attended the State Convention for re-electing me as your State Deputy. Becoming State Deputy was never a dream or goal of mine but serving God is a goal of mine. I won't go into all the reason of why I'm driven to serve God but suffice it to say...I owe Him a lot. He has opened doors and has led me in a direction that serving Him is all that matters. It's not about "me" or even "we", it's about trusting in God and His Son our Lord Jesus Christ.

I know that by serving Him I will be serving you.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Please plan to attend the upcoming Organizational Meeting in July. The meeting will be held on the beautiful grounds of Cardome in Georgetown on July 22nd & 23rd. A block of

## JOHNSON CONT.

hotel rooms has been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn in Georgetown for those staying on Friday and or Saturday evenings.

While this meeting is geared towards the District Deputies, your GKs and FSs can learn a lot. There are positive changes coming. I think you will like what you hear.

#### In Closing:

Pick up your Rosary & Pray. Don't be afraid to Step Into the Breach. It's our time to serve the Lord!

Take Care & God Bless, Tom Johnson State Deputy



## STATE CHAPLAIN FR. JOHN LIST

"He therefore let you be afflicted with hunger, then fed you with manna..."

Deuteronomy 8:3

(From the Mass for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ)

The April issue of the Columbia magazine featured an article on the dedication back in February of the new shrine in Oklahoma City honoring Blessed Stanley Rother. It brought back memories of my pilgrimage in January to the sites of the martyrs in El Salvador and Guatemala and was a reminder as well of the many thousands murdered in those countries for believing that God loved them as His sons and daughters and, emboldened by that conviction, simply tried to make a better life for themselves and their families.

I suspect that Fr. Rother may have had other priorities for the \$40 million spent on a shrine in his name, but there was one line in the article that really caught my attention. The Oklahoma State deputy made a profound connection between Blessed Stanley Rother and Blessed Michael McGivney when he said, "They both had a mission to serve the poor, to protect the families in their communities, and to promote our Catholic faith."

The gospels tell us that Jesus constantly reached out to the poor, the outcast, those whom Pope Francis has referred to as being "on the fringes." During the time of Fr.

## LIST CONT.

McGivney's America, being Irish already put him in a socially disreputable light; I don't imagine his concern for the widows and orphans gained him much approbation among the elite. Many of us have heard the story of his compassion for a prisoner condemned to death. Fr. Rother often put his life on the line to intercede on behalf of a campesino who had been scooped up by a military patrol and who would almost certainly be "disappeared" otherwise. Finally, although he had been warned that his name was on a "hit-list", but reasoning that a shepherd cannot leave the sheep unprotected, he paid the ultimate price.

When I think of the sacrifices these holy men have made, the example they have given, I am humbled. Realizing that the relative "lap of luxury" I enjoy requires so much less of me, how can I complain about what seems to me, at times and in my tiny corner of the Kingdom, an unending wave of demands from so many directions? And yet I do.

The first reading for the solemnity of Corpus Christi is set on the banks of the Jordan River. Moses cannot cross with the children of Israel for, although he has led them through the desert, the Lord has told him he may not enter the Promised Land. Moses fears that when they have tasted the abundance waiting in the land "flowing with milk and honey," they will forget who has brought them there, who sustained them during their sojourn. So, he reminds them one last time of the lesson they should have learned from their "affliction" in the desert, from their daily dependence on the Lord: trust in the Lord, not in yourself. Sometimes I think I could do with a little more affliction.

Vivat Jesus! Fr. John List State Chaplain



## STATE SECRETARY LUKE WILLIAMS

#### Acknowledgement

June 30, 2023 is the end of the 2022-2023 Fraternal Year for the Supreme, State and your local Councils. The Kentucky State Council and many of your Councils have already had elections (or will have) for their FY 2023-2024 officers. Please offer your prayers and support for all who will officially begin their terms on July 1, 2023. Congratulations to outgoing Council Officers and thank you for your time and effort for your Council. I would also like to thank all Council's for helping me in my duties as State Secretary. Your prompt response to my requests with KY State Council responsibilities is greatly appreciated.

Good luck to all new incoming Officers and please take advantage of training that the Knights of Columbus provides for the positions you have been elected to. If you have questions, your District Deputy or State Officers can be a great resource and I highly recommend visiting KofC.org and typing in "Officer Training" and see what is available.

#### The Knights of Columbus 2023 Kentucky State Convention

The recent State Convention held in Frankfort May 19-21, 2023, was a success for those who were able to attend and it sure was great to be able to see a lot of you in person. Congratulations to the current State Officers who were reelected for another term to serve You, the KY State Council. Many Councils and Individuals were acknowledged for their efforts during the Awards session of this year's State Convention. "Thank You" and appreciation to all Brother Knights and their families for all their hard work and efforts the past year for your support of your Church, Community and Council. I humbly ask that you continue your commitment to the principles our order was founded on. I want to especially thank Steve O'Bryan, Ed Quinn and all others who had a hand in making sure

## WILLIAMS CONT.

the Convention was a success. Your work, support and help are very much appreciated.

#### What's Happening this Month

Here are items that should be on all Councils and District Deputies checklist to consider/complete for June and July.

- The Report of Officers Chosen (#185) is due by June 30th. This can be easily completed by the Financial Secretary in the Member Management software or can still be filled out and sent in. Please make sure a copy is sent to the State Deputy and your District Deputy.
- RSVP Applications (Supreme Form #2871) for \$100 refunds for Councils giving at least \$500 in support of a seminarian or novice are due at Supreme between April 1st and June 30th.
- After the upcoming Elections, Council Officer information needs to be sent to the KY State Executive Secretary for the State's records. Any changes to Council meeting location or time also should be sent to the State Executive Secretary.
- Prepare the Councils Columbian Award Application (#SP-7) and have the State
  Program Director review before sending a final copy to the Supreme Council office
  before the June 30th deadline. Your State Program Director is a great resource to
  help with this report. This document is a great tool for future Council Officers to be
  able to review all the activities done by the Council (large or small) to help with
  their Goals and Calendar for upcoming Fraternal Years to come.
- A review of the 2022-2023 fraternal year initiatives and activities should be done to see what worked and if any improvements can be made. This review is a great resource for years to come.
- The Grand Knight should fill out the Service Program Personnel Report (#365) and turn into the Supreme Office and the State Deputy by August 1st.
- The Installation of Council Officers should be scheduled.
- Congratulations to those Councils who have already completed the requirements for the "Star Council Award". I commend you for your dedication and work.
- Always ask someone to join your council or our ranks as Catholic Gentlemen.

### WILLIAMS CONT.

## Fraternal Year 2023-2024 Organizational Meeting-July 22, 2023 at the Cardome Center-Georgetown, KY

Welcome to the new Fraternal Year! Please put this date on your calendar to attend this important 1st meeting for the new Fraternal Year. It is geared towards District Deputies, but all are welcome to attend.

#### Gratitude

Finally, I am grateful for your support during the past year that I have served as your State Secretary. I also Thank my wife Pam for the enduring support she has given me.

Vivat Jesus, Luke Williams KY State Secretary



## STATE TREASURER DICK BURNS

Brothers Knights,
120th State Convention!

We had a GREAT convention this year. We had SRO for the Adoration Friday night and filled all the seats and had to bring in more for our meetings Saturday and Sunday. I made a lot of new acquaintances, renewed old ones, and enjoyed sharing experiences and ideas with my Brothers. I hope that those in attendance found it as valuable as I did and spread the word so that we have an even bigger group next year.

I appreciate the confidence that the delegates had in me to re-elect me as State Treasurer.

The best part is (knock on wood), unlike after I came home from the Supreme Convention last August, I came home without Covid!

Special thanks to DD Ed Quinn and FDD Steve O'Bryan for their outstanding efforts in co-chairing the Convention again this year. There's a lot of behind-the-scenes work involved, and they make it look easy!

#### Recruit! and Retain! (or else...)

Congratulations to Waverly Council 1361 for coming off the "Councils Which Have Not Recorded Any YTD New Membership" report this month in a big way with 4 new members. I visited them and DD Ed Shoemaker a few years ago. They're a great group of guys with a lot of activities.

## BURNS CONT.

However, we still have too many councils that still haven't recruited a new member. Councils at risk of dying off. If you don't recruit, the council will not last. **Ask them, they will join**. If you don't ask them, they won't join.

#### **Busy June!**

- At least here in Louisville, this is prime Parish Picnic time! I'm sure most councils will play a part in it. We run the food booth. Can anyone say fish sandwiches and brats? Don't forget to turn in your Form 10784!
- Corpus Christi is June 11th. Archbishop Fabre is leading a Eucharistic Procession from the Cathedral to Waterfront Park. We're hoping for a great 4th Degree turnout, but all Knights are welcome. Louisville area Please join me!
- June 18th is the day set aside to honor our fathers. If you're blessed to still have your Dad living, make sure you let him know how much you love and appreciate him! And if you're blessed to be a Dad, I wish you a wonderful day with your family.

Vivat Jesus, Dick Burns State Treasurer

Show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works. James 2:18



## STATE ADVOCATE GARY DYKHUIS

#### Worthy Brothers, 2022-2023 State Convention

What a Great State Convention, the **120th State Convention**, with brothers in Frankfort. My thanks to the District Deputies and Grand Knights that help me as State Advocate, with the forms and Safe Environment Training. My goal is to help you earn your quest toward Star council. Also thanks for trusting me to serve another year as your State Advocate.

#### Council Elections!

It is that time of the year for your council to have had or is set for your elections. We have one month left in this Fraternal year and there is still time, to get the leftover business done. Also, it is a great idea at this time to fill out your "Form185 Report of Officers chosen for the Year". Also, time for "Form 365 Report of Service Program Personnel", Please complete these as soon as possible.

#### **Safe Environment Training**

Praesidium will be upgrading its current online learning platform (Armatus) to Praesidium Academy on Tuesday, May 9th. On Wednesday May 3rd, state deputies will receive an advance copy of the email that will be sent out to all members who have completed one or more requirements of The Knights of Columbus Safe Environment Program since 2019. The email will be sent to all members Monday, May 8th. These emails from the Knights of Columbus will notify members of an email to be sent from the new Praesidium Academy on Tuesday, May 9th. The Praesidium Academy email will have instructions on how to log into the new platform and create a password. The Knights of Columbus is giving this advance notice to assure our members that these emails are authentic and

## DYKHUIS CONT.

NOT scams. Members who follow the instructions from Praesidium Academy will ensure their access the next time they are assigned safe environment training and screening.

Kentucky's Safe Environment Training" is at 37 councils are fully Compliant. Many Councils have just one more Brother to be Compliant. If you need help, please call me or e-mail me.

We need to achieve our "Safe Environment Training" goals, which is 36 councils. This means, Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director, and Community Director need to complete the training. If you have completed this training in the last three years, you are good to go. It is on line training and takes about an hour to complete. The Councils that sponsor youth events like Free Throw Competitions, Soccer Challenge, Keep Christ in Christmas Poster, eta. "Safe Environment Training" (SET) is a must. You must have at least two SET Knights at these events (one must have a background check). If you cannot meet this requirement, you should not conduct this event. The same requirement is for youth helping you in your events (Fish fries, pancake breakfast, chicken cooks).

#### Happy Father's Day

Being a Father in today's World is a real challenge. If you are a Father, grandfather, your influence is vital. You need to set the example for all our young folks to follow, going to church as often as possible. As I write, 79 years ago was D-Day, and many of our Fathers were part of this Great Day. It was the end of World War Two. This was the Greatest Generation help make America the Greatest nation on Earth.

#### **Recruit and Retain**

We are closing in on our Fraternal Year, we have one months to recruit New Members and Families in our Kentucky Knights of Columbus order. There still is **FREE MEMBERSHIP**. for a New Member and he can join on his iPhone, cell phone by going to www.KofC.Org. The new **Promo Code BLESSEDMCGIVNEY**. The new Young Members and Families have the Best Ideas and know some of best practices.

Please remember, Supreme has the Exemplification of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity on line or you can read the ceremony, the best way is to hold an Exemplification after a Sunday MASS. You can invite the congregation to be a part. This is a Great way to have

## DYKHUIS CONT.

a New Third-Degree member, with some Great New Ideas and can help with our projects the Council has.

Please welcome former members to come back to the order. Ask any Affiliate Member to come back.

It had been Real Honor to have served the Kentucky Jurisdiction as a State council Officer for this year and past Years, and look forward to continue serving you with your support.

Vivat Jesus, Gary Dykhuis State Advocate



## GENERAL AGENT DANIEL SCHACHLE

Knights of Columbus – Helping You Prepare for the Expected and Unexpected When June rolls around a couple of things come to my mind: grilling and graduations. Now these two things don't seem to have much in common. In fact, some may say they have nothing at all in common. It simply illustrates how amusingly my mind works.

But let me expound a bit on both. Outdoor grilling comes on full force this time of year. Yes, in the warmer climates, there are those that grill all year round. Even in the colder climates, some make a point of outdoor grilling in the coldest of weather. But for most, June starts that season when the grill is often fired up and all the succulent goodness of charbroiled food is readied for the table. Now let me relate that to graduations: I've been to many graduation parties and there always seems to be that one person who is the designated grill master. Flipping hamburgers, turning hot dogs, kielbasa, and sausage, and tenderizing vegetables over an open flame for the celebrants.

How's that for a segue? From grilling to graduations! The end of the school year means graduations. Some, from the lowest educational levels...all the way to the highest. At whatever level you may fall, or your child may fall, I offer hearty congratulations! Graduating may mean moving up one more grade level or for some who are at the end of the educational journey, it might mean a step into a new career. Or maybe advancing in an already established career. Graduating has as a natural consequence, a moving on, taking the next step. Carefully preparing for a career, taking stock of talents and newfound knowledge, thinking of the impact your career may have on your family and the greater community; the graduate is ready!

I think of the work our Field Agents do with our members and their families in the same way: getting our brother Knights to graduate at the top of their class; well-prepared,

### SCHACHLE CONT.

knowledgeable, setting a course with impact for their family. Sitting down with a K of C Field Agent for a consultation starts the preparation. They will take stock of where you are and any recent changes in your situation with our state-of-the-art financial needs analysis program. The result is to help make sure you and your family are prepared: Prepared for the expected and the unexpected. The expected might be a comfortable retirement with adequate income to do the things you've always wanted to do. Being prepared for the unexpected is important, too: an untimely loss, an extended care event, a disability. Understanding the impact of having a strategy now is the first step in preparation.

Your Field Agent will be calling soon to set up a time to get together to make sure you're set to graduate at the top of your class!

#### **Vivat Jesus!**

Dan Schachle
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## **GONE TO TEXAS**

#### 2023 Kentucky State Council Farewell Address Bill Schmidt, PSD, FDM

Reverend Father, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Supreme Director, Worthy Past State Deputies, Worthy District Deputies, Worthy District Master, Worthy Grand Knights, Delegates, and my Brother Knights all.

For those of you that don't know me, I served the Kentucky Jurisdiction as State Deputy from 2012 – 2014.

Together, we earned the Circle of Honor both years and brought new councils to



nine parishes including Kentucky's first Military and Hispanic councils. I also served the Kentucky District as District Master of the Fourth Degree from 2018 – 2022 where we reached nearly 130% of quota in 2020 – 2021 during the Pandemic and brought new assemblies to Louisville and Lexington. Let me reiterate that these accomplishments are yours as members of the Kentucky State Council. I was just lucky to be "the man in charge" during that time.

So why is a Past State Deputy and Former District Master speaking to you today? I am here to announce that this is likely my last Kentucky State Convention as I will be leaving the great state of Kentucky in the coming weeks as I have accepted a position as Vice President of Engineering for a pressure equipment manufacturer in West Texas effective June 1st.

It is with a multitude of mixed emotions that I stand before you today to make this announcement. I have come to know many of you well over the years and have forged

## TEXAS CONT.

some incredible friendships that I know will stand the test of time, even over 1,100 miles. You have welcomed me and my family into your councils, assemblies, and even into your homes. This Damn Yankee from Northern Illinois has learned many important life lessons over the last 25 years in Kentucky, including what is a good bourbon, what makes Derby Pie and a Hot Brown so delicious, why the Kentucky Derby is so much more than "The Fastest Two Minutes in Sports", and what's the difference between a UK and U of L fan – OK maybe I still need some help with that one....

I have cherished my time here with the Kentucky State Council and will certainly miss all of you as I start a new, exciting chapter in my life. At some point I will transfer my membership to Texas. I have had a few Brother Knights ask if I plan to pursue State Office in the Texas State Council. To you I only have this to say – "You're Nuts! Been there, done that, got the mini-jewel". In all seriousness, I am sure that I will become active with the Knights of Columbus in Texas but I don't plan to serve in the highest of capacities there. I know that wherever I go, Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism with my Brother Knights will always be a constant, but a big part of me as a Knight will always be here in Kentucky.

As I leave you today, know that I am Still Counting on you to grow your councils and assemblies. I urge you to get your council back active if it is still in a bit of a Pandemic slumber. Put any differences you have with your Brothers aside and get back to work. Recruit new members. Plan and execute programs that bring your council and your parishes together. Your parish, your community, and your membership needs your council today.

My good friend and fellow Brother Knight, IPSD Steve Zanone, told me that when I leave, I need to put a sign on my house that simply reads "GTT".

## TEXAS CONT.

"Gone to Texas", often abbreviated GTT, was a phrase used by Americans emigrating to Texas in the 19th century. During the Panic of 1819, many left the United States and moved there to escape debt. Moving to Texas, which at the time was part of Mexico, was particularly popular among debtors from the South and West. Emigrants or their abandoned neighbors often wrote the phrase on doors of abandoned houses or posted as a sign on fences. I should probably clarify that I am not leaving to escape debt!

So, as I will be "Gone to Texas"
Weep no more, my lady
Oh, weep no more, today
We sing one song
For my old Kentucky home
For my old Kentucky home
Far away.

Thank you all for your support over the years. Vivat Jesus!

### FIELD AGENT CAREER OPPORTUNITY



Join us on 06/15/2023 to learn about a Field Agent Career opportunity with the Knights of Columbus, hosted by Vice President of Agent Recruiting & Growth Pat Brumley and Regional Agency Executive Consultant John Mahon.

Learn how you can match your faith with your career goals and support a brotherhood of men just like you who want to make a difference for their family and their community.

Sponsored by Your Knights of Columbus Daniel E. Schachle PGK, FICF Agency. Knights of Columbus, providing financial services to Catholics for over 140 years

Date: 06/15/2023 Time: 7:30 PM CDT

Registration link: https://tinyurl.com/KofCCareerEventJune15



No purchase is necessary. This event is for informational purposes only and does not constitute financial, tax or legal advice. © Knights of Columbus, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510.

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## **CALENDAR**

June
Feast of Corpus Christi 11
4th Degree Exemplification 24

July
2023-2024 Fraternal Year begins 1
Organizational meeting 21-23

August
Supreme Convention 1-3



## NEWSLETTER

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